



## **HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

### **Board Member Biographical Statements**

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#### **Leilani Pulmano, Chair, (Maui)**

Leilani Pulmano, holds a degree from the University of Hawaii's School of Travel Industry Management. This guided Leilani to a career in tourism with Hyatt Hotels and Resorts where she worked in several different cities before returning to Hawaii to work for Maui Land & Pineapple Company in Community Development. She is currently a Project Manager at Muneikiyo & Hiraga.

Leilani is active in the community with Lahaina Bypass Now, an organization working towards transportation solutions, and Ka Ipu Kukui, an organization of upcoming leaders dedicated to improving Maui Nui.

#### **Milo Spindt, Vice-Chair, (Kauai)**

Milo Spindt previously served the Kauai District Land Agent for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Land Division. He brings his experience as a Property Manager and Real Estate Broker where he worked with private and non-profit affordable housing developers. He also founded a 501 (c) 3 for the purpose of public/private partnerships in developing affordable low income housing.

Mr. Spindt is a graduate of the University of Oregon.

#### **Rona Fukumoto, Secretary, (Private Non-Profit)**

Rona Fukumoto of Honolulu is currently division administrator for Catholic Charities Hawaii's Housing Assistance and Referral Programs, and is the nonprofit's former director of intake, information and referral. Prior to that, she worked her way up from employment specialist to vice president and director of employment and community programs at Winners at Work from 1995 to 2004. Fukumoto also served as an educational specialist and office assistant at UH Manoa's KOKUA Program. She currently volunteers as a member of the Catholic Charities Housing Development Corporation and Hawaii State Department of Human Services Financial Assistance Advisory Council, and is a former member of the Hawaii Parkinson Association. Fukumoto also volunteers for Project Dana, providing respite care through home visits to elderly individuals. She earned a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in public administration from UH Manoa.

#### **Melvin Kahele, Director**

Melvin Kahele, Jr.'s brings his experience as President/Principal Executive Officer for the Teamsters Union, Local 996 and Legislative lobbyist for the Ironworkers Union, Local 625 Stabilization Fund to the HHFDC board. His other professional and community service include chairing 7 Teamsters union trust funds.

Following an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army, he attended Leeward Community College for three years. While attending college, he began a twenty-five year career at the Gas Company, he served as a shop steward and negotiating committee member for nineteen of those years. In 1996, he was elected to the Executive Board of the Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers Union, Local 996.

Mr Kahele also served as a member of the U.S. Human Rights Commission and boards of the Asian Pacific Labor Alliance and Aloha United Way.

**Audrey Abe, Director, (Oahu)**

Audrey Abe holds licenses as a Certified Public Accountant, Certified General Residential and Commercial Real Estate Appraiser and Notary Public in the State of Hawaii. Her professional experience includes working with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HGEA, State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, Veterans Administration offices in Hawaii, The Hawaii Housing Authority and the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Housing and Community Development.

She holds a BA from San Jose State University and a MFA from the California Institute of the Arts.

**Donn Mende, Director, (Hawaii)**

Donn Mende, a resident of Hilo with over 20 years' experience in the Finance and Banking industry is currently the Lending Manager for HFS Federal Credit Union on Hawaii Island. He has also served as the Deputy Director for the Department of Research & Development of the County of Hawaii's economic development arm. Donn is very active in the community serving on the boards of the Boys & Girls Club of the Big Island, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Hawaii and the Big Island Housing Foundation.

**Wesley Machida, Director, Dept. of Budget and Finance**

Wesley Machida previously was the Executive Director of the \$14 billion Employees' Retirement System of the State of Hawaii. His other work experience has been as an Assistant Auditor in the Office of the Auditor and Assistant Administrator for the Child Support Enforcement Agency. Mr. Machida, a former Certified Public Accountant, worked for various public accounting firms before and in-between his employment with the State, with his last private sector employment as a Senior Audit Manager with Grant Thornton LLP.

Mr. Machida serves on the Board of Trustees for the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority, and is a member of the Government Finance Officers Association and the National Association of State Retirement Administrators. He graduated from the Kamehameha Schools, and the University of Hawaii at Manoa with an MBA in Business Administration and BA in Economics.

**Luis Salaveria, Director, Dept. of Business, Economic Development & Tourism**

Luis P. Salaveria brings more than 20 years of public and private sector experience and most recently served as the deputy director of finance where he assisted the director of finance in the planning, design and management of the annual \$12 billion operational and \$3 billion capital improvement budgets of the State of Hawaii; managing the State Treasury with more than \$3 billion in assets; conducting general obligation and revenue bond issuances; introducing and implementing fiscal and economic legislation and policies; conducting public affairs and stakeholder outreach; and administering the operations of all divisions and attached agencies (Employee Retirement System, Employer Union Trust Fund, Public Utilities Commission, and Public Defenders Office) of the more than 300-employee department.

Salaveria holds a degree in economics from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, is a graduate of Kaiser Permanente's National Manager's Leadership Program, and earned his Fiduciary Trustee Certificate from the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans.

**Denise Iseri-Matsubara, Director, Office of the Governor**

Denise Iseri-Matsubara is the Senior Special Assistant in the Office of the Governor. She spent nearly a decade in the public sector working in leadership positions at various state agencies including the Lieutenant Governor's Office, University of Hawai'i at West O'ahu, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. While at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, she assisted the Director in promoting public-private partnerships to increase the development of affordable homes. Part of her work in the Governor's office involves strategic planning on the Governor's goals for the state. Denise holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa.